

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Alex Smyth](#)
Subject: [EXT] Middlebrook Bridge #10
Date: August 19, 2021 11:16:22 AM

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Dear Woolwich and Wellington Council,

I am writing this letter to ask you to consider opening the bridge on Weisenberg St (off of Middlebrook, north of West Montrose) for pedestrian and cycling use. As an active cyclist in the Region of Waterloo for nearly 30 years, I have come to appreciate the quieter gravel roads for cycling. In fact, I have led group rides with the Waterloo Cycling Club, as well as more informal cycling groups from out of town. This bridge was always a big part of many of our gravel rides, not only because of its historic beauty, but because it allows a very important connection of cycling routes across the Grand River. Gravel cycling has grown immensely in the past few years and the Region of Waterloo offers tremendous opportunities for this type of cycling.

Since the closure of this bridge. Before it closed this year, cyclists I took across this bridge would always pause to admire the view of the river and take photos. Since the closing of the bridge, our cycling routes have had to be diverted to busier paved roads with fast-moving motorized vehicles. This has impacted the enjoyment of our rides. I'll even go so far as to say bridges of this type are tourist attractions, and I can speak to this first hand.

Rather than unnecessarily spending large capital to take down this bridge, I urge you to open the bridge for people on foot, or on bicycle. It will improve cycling tourism and the mental health of local cyclists!

I've attached two photos from group rides in recent years, where we've crossed this bridge on foot. A landmark indeed!

Thank you!

S [REDACTED] Shikaze
Waterloo, ON